

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

AID-05 IGA-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 COME-00 AGR-05 /073 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3299

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, VS

SUBJECT: COMMENTS CONCERNING FOREIGN AID MADE TO MR 4 PROVINCE
CHIEFS BY LTG CAO HAO HON

FOLLOWING TEL SENT SAIGON FEB 27, H/W REPEATED TO YOU. QTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, VS

SUBJECT: COMMENTS CONCERNING FOREIGN AID MADE TO MR4 PROVINCE
CHIEFS BY LTG CAO HAO HON

1. AT THE MONTHLY MR4 PROVINCE CHIEF'S MEETING HELD ON 25
FEBRUARY, LTG HON, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL SECURITY AND
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, MADE SEVERAL COMMENTS CONCERNING US FOREIGN
AID. HIS REMARKS TO THE 16 ATTENDING PROVINCE CHIEFS OF THE
DELTA WERE MADE IN TONES OF BENEVOLENT ADMONITION. THE
SUBSTANCE OF HIS STATEMENT FOLLOWS.

2. WITH A VERY SMALL POPULATION AND ARMY, THE STATE OF ISRAEL
HAD NO DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING AMERICAN FOREIGN AID IN EXCESS OF
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TWO BILLION DOLLARS. AT THE SAME TIME, SOUTH VIETNAM IS HAVING

GREAT DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING 300 MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE US CONGRESS. YET ISRAEL GOT RESULTS IN ITS FIGHTING, AND QUICKLY. BUT WHEN WE COMPARE OUR CURRENT SITUATION WITH THAT OF 1970-1971 WE SEE A REGRESSION AND CANNOT BLAME THE AMERICAN PUBLIC FOR RESISTING ADDITIONAL AID TO US FOR AN UNLIMITED TIME. MANY AMERICANS HAVE LEFT VIETNAM AND RETURNED TO THE US ONLY TO FIND THAT THEY DO NOT HAVE JOBS. THE AMERICANS ARE TURNING TO THEIR OWN PROBLEMS BECAUSE MANY OF THEM DO NOT SEE AN END TO OURS. THHREFORE, WE MUST PREPARE TO STAND ON OUR OWN.

3. WE MUST BE ABLE TO EXPORT RICE WITHIN ONE OR TWO YEARS--WE MUST STRIVE TO DOUBLE PRODUCTION AND WE MUST WORK HARDER AND MAKE EVERY EFFORT BECAUSE, AS PRESIDENT THIEU RECENTLY STATED AT THE NIA GRADUATION IN JANUARY THAT "WE ARE IN A MOST DANGEROUS POSITION, NOT BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF 300 MILLION ADDITIONAL US DOLLARS, BUT BECAUSE WE DO NOT HAVE THE PRESENCE OF 500,000 ALLIED SOLDIERS. WE DXSNOT HAVE THE AMMUNITION TTAT WE ONCE HAD AMZ WE CANNOT GENERATE THE NECESSARY FUNDS. REALIZING THIS DANGER, WE MUST ACT, NOT JUST SPEAK." MCNAMARA UNQTE LEHMANN

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